operators who are working under electronic performance monitors such as telecommunications, call centres, directory services etc. has shown that there is significantly higher incidence of morbidity such as job boredom, tension, anxiety and depression etc. among them.

Wild buffaloes

*509. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not ordered even a single census on the presence of wild buffaloes in dedicated sanctuaries;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government are not interested in protecting wild buffaloes in the country;

(c) the reasons for the go-slow approach of Government with regard to census and surveys of wild life in the country;

(d) what steps would be taken to create a pro-active atmosphere in all matters related to wild life; and

(e) the immediate steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) National Wildlife Action Plan (2002—2016) already provides for status surveys of all rare and threatened species of flora and fauna which include wild buffaloes. The census of these animals has in the past been carried out by the states of Assam and Chhattisgarh where their population is mainly confined.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no go slow approach. Periodic census of major species of wild animals is carried out by the states. Central Government provides financial support for this purpose under the Centrally Sponsored Wildlife Schemes.

(d) The steps which are to be taken in all matters related to wildlife are mentioned in National Wildlife Action Plan (2002—2016). The important steps include strengthening and enhancing protected area network, effective management of protected areas, control of poaching and illegal trade in wild animals, monitoring and research, human resource development, people's participation in wildlife conservation etc.

(e) The immediate steps to be taken include :

i. Setting up of a multi-disciplinary Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.

ii. Review the management of tiger reserves by a five member task force set up for the purpose.

iii. Setting up of a task force for identification of eco-systems along the international borders and constitution of trans boundary protected areas.

Availability of fodder

†*510. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the average fodder availability for each milch animal at National level is 5 Kg. per day only;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) the number of milch cows and buffalloes separately in every State and the average fodder availability for them per day;

(d) whether it is a fact that the availability of fodder per animal is less than the requirement; and

(e) if so, the requirement of fodder per animal?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that on an average about 7.50 Kgs fodder per milch animal per day is available in the country.

(c) The statement showing number of milch cows and buffaloes separately in every State and the average fodder available for them per day is given in the Statement (*See* below)

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The requirement of fodder per animal varies from region to region,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.